

CHANGES TO THE CLAIMS

Before examination on the merits, please cancel claims 1–26.

1–26. (Canceled).

27. (Original) An apparatus for protecting a vehicle operator within a cab of a mobile vehicle working in a polluted environment, the cab sealed from the polluted environment, the apparatus comprising:

a contaminant sensor for sensing presence of a contaminant in the cab and generating an alarm signal when the sensor senses the presence of a contaminant;

a timer; and

a processor linked to the timer and for, when a first alarm signal is generated, disrupting operation of the vehicle, timing out a disrupt period and, at the end of the disrupt period, returning the vehicle to normal operation.

28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 27 wherein, during the disrupt period, the processor monitors the alarm signal and, if the alarm signal ceases, returns the vehicle to normal operation.

29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 27 wherein the vehicle includes an implement and wherein the processor disrupts by disabling the implement.

30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 27 wherein the processor disrupts by reducing the maximum vehicle speed.

31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 27 further including an indicator and, wherein, when the first alarm signal is generated, the processor activates the indicator and times out a delay period prior to disrupting vehicle operation.